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De-Embedding Millimeter-Wave Integrated Circuits with TRL

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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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DE-EMBEDDING MILLIMETER-WAVE INTEGRATED CIRCUITS WITH TRL

I. INTRODUCTION

Now that you have the use of a network analyzer that goes to 40 GHz or above, just what do you do with it? Using the calibration procedures included with the analyzer will let you look at packaged millimeter-wave circuits. The two-port parameters will include the effects of line and transition reflections and losses. Using the line extender artifice is useful only if the transitions are near ideal and the line parameters well known.

De-embedding to the circuit or device contained within the line (microstrip, coplanar, suspended substrate, etc.) usually requires ideal or measured shorts, opens, and resistive loads. At normal microwave frequencies a short may appear as such, but at millimeter wavelengths a short will surely be inductive, an open radiative, and a resistor inductive. At millimeter wavelengths one very interesting de-embedding procedure called TRL¹ (Through-Reflect-Length) seems almost magic-like in that very non-ideal elements can be used for the procedure. These elements are:

T: Through line which connects the two transitions.

R: Reflect elements which can be just about anything as long as identical ones are used to terminate the input and output transitions.

L: Length of transmission line connecting the two transitions.

TRL de-embedding is easy to implement on wafers which can use coplanar probes² or microstrip launchers^{3,4}. The input and output probes can be moved apart thereby facilitating the "L" part of TRL.

The method to be described will allow TRL de-embedding using any type of transmission line without the use of external probes. The abilty to use waveguide input and output transitions should be of particular interest to designers of millimeter-wave hybrid integrated circuits.

II. METHOD

Figure 1 indicates the four measurements necessary for de-embedding. Note that TRL transition A and TRL transition B both include line lengths which meet somewhere in-between (reference position). The actual transitions which connect to the analyzer ports can be quite different, and may even include different bias lines.

Figure 1a. shows the basic <u>through</u> structure. S parameters are taken over the desired frequency range. The transitions can actually have poor VSWR without upsetting the de-embedding procedure.

Figure 1b. shows the <u>reflect</u> measurement used. Since any two identical reflections may be used, it is particularly simple to remove equal large sections from both sides of the reference position. The reflection elements are therefore reduced sections of line terminated with a radiative open circuit.

Figure 1c. shows the <u>length</u> measurement configuration. Note that TRL transition A and TRL transition B are the same as in the other measurements except for an added length of transmission line. This requires another fixture exactly like that of Fig. 1a. except for an extended length in the region surrounding the reference position. To insure "exactness" the fixtures are best made on a computer-controlled mill.

Figure 1d. is the same as figure 1a except that the device to be measured is shown centered at the reference position.

The four sets of measurement data should be stored in data files for manipulation by the de-embedding program. The mathematics behind the procedure, based (with exceptions) on Reference 1, is given in Appendix A. A de-embedding program which directly follows this is given in Appendix B.

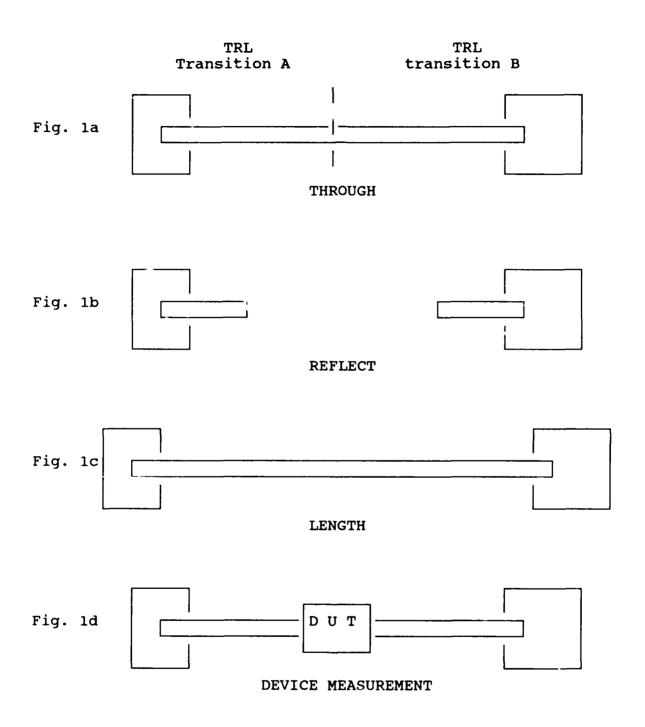


Figure 1. The four measurements required for TRL de-embedding.

III. An Example of De-Embedding

To illustrate the effectiveness of the above procedure, two Ka band suspended substrate fixtures with waveguide transitions were fabricated using a computer-controlled mill⁵. The fixtures were fabricated for line lengths (excluding probes) of 1.4 and 2.0 inches. The length difference is about twice the suspended substrate wavelength at 33 GHz. Instead of using .080" waveguide probe lengths which would have given excellent VSWR for the 92 ohm transmission lines⁶, .050" probes were used. A typical suspended substrate bandpass filter was inserted in the line as the DUT. Figures 2 and 3 show the detrimental effects of using the intentionally bad probes.

The two-port S parameters for the above two cases were measured in the smaller fixture as well as the S parameters of a non-ideal open circuit (about 1 inch of line removed in the center). Next the S parameters of the 2-inch line were measured in the larger fixture. All of the measured parameters were put into computer files which were then called up by the de-embedding program. The results of de-embedding the filter are shown in Figure 4. The usual flat top and reasonable return loss are similar to measurements made with normal .080" probes.

IV. Conclusions

The use of two circuit fixtures, one larger than the other by a nominal length, leads to a de-embedding procedure which should be very useful at millimeter wavelengths. Particularly important, any type of transmission line may be used. Transitions and bias lines may be different for the input and output. A transistor chip with bond wires may be measured in the same media as its intended use. Discontinuities are therefore measured along with the chip and can be used directly in subsequent circuit design. The reproducibility of the fixtures and transmission lines will determine the upper frequency limit. Using .0005-in. tolerances, useful parameters should be obtainable to at least 100 GHz.

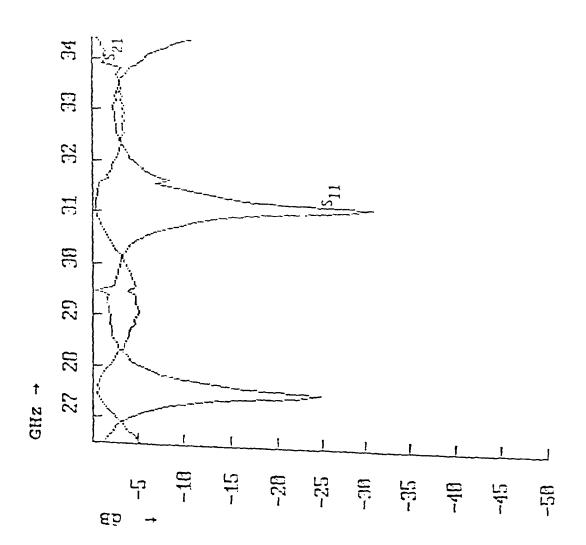
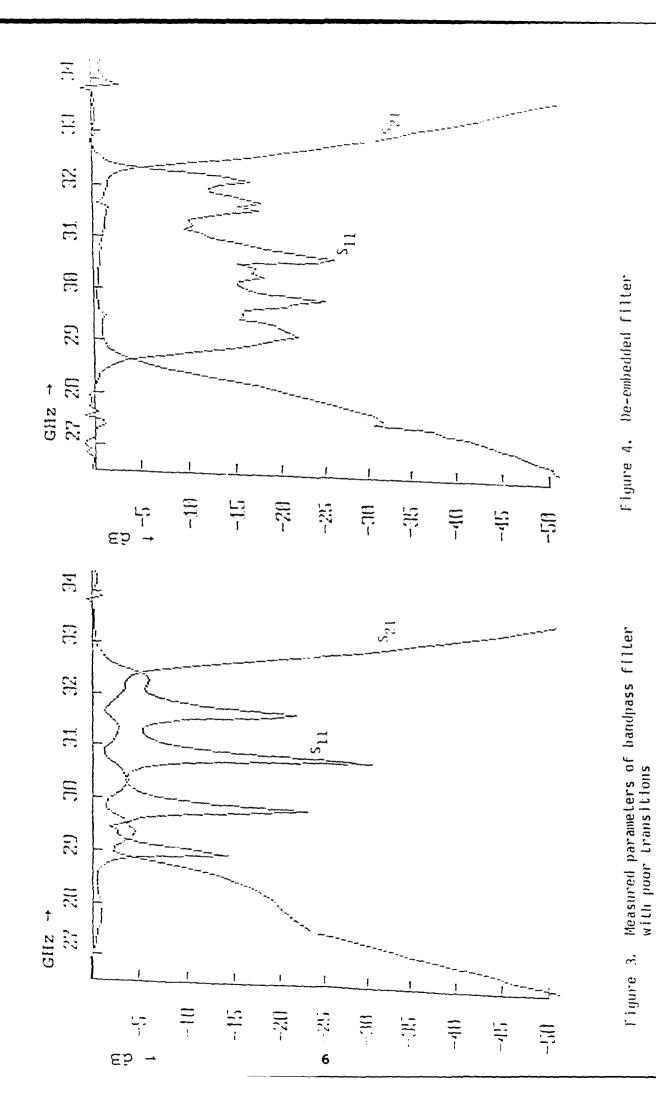


Figure 2. Measured parameters of 1.4 inch line with poor transitious



Appendix I: TRL De-Embedding

A. FINDING THE LINE PARAMETERS

Both the attenuation and effective dielectric properties of the transmission line may be found from the measurements indicated in figures 1a and 1c. If there were no transition reflections, then it would be simple to get these values from the two S21 measurements. However, reflections from the transitions introduce errors which can be eliminated by the first part of a TRL program.

The scattering parameters derived from each of the four steps can easily be converted to transmission parameters:

Scattering Parameters

Transmission Parameters

$$b_1 = s_{11}a_1 + s_{12}a_2$$

 $b_2 = s_{21}a_1 + s_{22}a_2$

$$b_1 = r_{11}a_2 + r_{12}b_2$$

 $a_1 = r_{21}a_2 + r_{22}b_2$

The relationship between the two parameters is

$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ a_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -S_{21} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -d_s & S_{11} \\ -S_{22} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

where
$$d_s = s_{11}s_{22} - s_{12}s_{21}$$

and the "R" matrix used here is sometimes called the "transmission" matrix.

The R matrix has a property similar to ABCD matrices; they may be multiplied in sequence (cascaded).

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} b_1 \\ a_1 \end{array}\right] = \left[\begin{array}{c} R_1 \end{array}\right] \cdot \left[\begin{array}{c} R_2 \end{array}\right] \cdot \left[\begin{array}{c} R_3 \end{array}\right] \cdot \left[\begin{array}{c} a_0 \\ b_0 \end{array}\right]$$

1. Measure
$$\begin{bmatrix} s_{AB} \end{bmatrix}$$
 , the S parameters of the through connection.

Convert to
$$\begin{bmatrix} R_{AB} \end{bmatrix}$$
, noting that $\begin{bmatrix} R_{AB} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R_{A} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} R_{B} \end{bmatrix}$

2. Measure $\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{s_{ALB}} \end{bmatrix}$, the S parameters of the through connection with the added length

Convert to
$$\begin{bmatrix} R_{ALB} \end{bmatrix}$$
, where $\begin{bmatrix} R_{ALB} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R_{A} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} R_{L} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} R_{B} \end{bmatrix}$

There is enough information from these two measurements to obtain the parameters of the transmission line used, i.e., the attenuation and phase velocity at each frequency. The added length must have the same characteristics as the line in which the DUT is to be embedded.

3. Find the matrix
$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{T} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{ALB}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{AB}} \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$
 (1)

Note that all the elements of the T matrix are known since the elements of $R_{\mbox{\scriptsize ALB}}$ and $R_{\mbox{\scriptsize AB}}$ were directly found from the $S_{\mbox{\scriptsize ALB}}$ and $S_{\mbox{\scriptsize AB}}$ measurements.

Using the cascade properties of the R matrix we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{T} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{L}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{B}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{L}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{B}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{B}} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}} \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

so that

$$\left[\begin{array}{c}\mathbf{T}\end{array}\right] = \left[\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}}\right] \cdot \left[\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{L}}\right] \cdot \left[\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}}\right]^{-1} \tag{2}$$

The added line of length L is non-reflecting (same impedance as end of TRL transitions), so

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{s_L} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & e^{-\tau L} \\ e^{-\tau L} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
 where $\tau = \alpha + j\beta$
$$\alpha = \text{attenuation const}$$

$$\beta = \text{propagation const}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{L}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e}^{-\tau \mathbf{L}} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{e}^{\tau \mathbf{L}} \end{bmatrix}$$

Using

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{T} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{L}} \end{bmatrix}$$
, we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{T}_1 & \mathbf{T}_2 \\ \mathbf{T}_3 & \mathbf{T}_4 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}1} & \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}2} \\ \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}3} & \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}4} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}1} & \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}2} \\ \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}3} & \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}4} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e}^{-\tau \mathbf{L}} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{e}^{\tau \mathbf{L}} \end{bmatrix}$$

Multiplying matrices we find:

(3)
$$T_1.R_{A1} + T_2.R_{A3} = R_{A1}e^{-\tau L}$$
 (5) $T_1.R_{A2} + T_2.R_{A4} = R_{A2}e^{\tau L}$

(4)
$$T_3.R_{A1} + T_4.R_{A3} = R_{A3}e^{-\tau L}$$
 (6) $T_3.R_{A2} + T_4.R_{A4} = R_{A4}e^{\tau L}$

From 3,4 we have
$$\frac{R_{A1}}{R_{A3}} = \frac{T_2}{e^{-\tau L} - T_1} = \frac{e^{-\tau L} - T_4}{T_3}$$
 (7)

so that
$$\epsilon^{-2\tau L} - \epsilon^{-\tau L} (T_1 + T_4) + (T_1 T_4 - T_2 T_3) = 0$$
 (8)

From 5,6 we have
$$\frac{R_{A2}}{R_{A4}} = \frac{T_2}{\epsilon^{\tau L} - T_1} = \frac{\epsilon^{\tau L} - T_4}{T_3}$$
 (9)

so that
$$\epsilon^{2\tau L} - \epsilon^{\tau L} (T_1 + T_4) + (T_1 T_4 - T_2 T_3) = 0$$
 (10)

The solutions for $\epsilon^{-\tau \, L}$ and $\epsilon^{\tau \, L}$ are the two solutions to the complex equation

$$G^2 - G(T_1 + T_4) + (T_1T_4 - T_2T_3) = 0$$

we find

$$G = B \cdot \left[1 \pm D^{1/2}\right]$$
 with solutions $|G_1| \cdot \epsilon^{jtg1}$, $|G_2| \cdot \epsilon^{jtg2}$ (11)

where
$$B = \frac{T_1 + T_4}{2}$$
 $C = T_1T_4 - T_2T_3$ $D = 1 - \frac{C}{B^2}$

The solution for $e^{-\tau L} = e^{-\alpha L} \cdot e^{-j\beta L}$ will be

$$|G_1| \cdot \epsilon^{jtg1}$$
 if tg1 is negative $|G_2| \cdot \epsilon^{jtg2}$ if tg2 is negative

The attenuation (dB) in the distance L is $20*log_{10}(G_{1,2})$ so

dB/inch =
$$\frac{20*\log_{10}(G_{1,2})}{L(in.)}$$
 (12)

where $G_{1,2}$ is the correct solution as found above

Also, since
$$\beta L = t_g = 2\pi \cdot L/\text{wavelength} = \frac{2\pi \cdot L \cdot f \cdot / e_{eff}}{c}$$

$$e_{eff} = \{ 30 \cdot t_g / [2.54 \cdot 2\pi \cdot L(in) \cdot f(gHz] \}^2$$
 (13)

We have found the transmission line parameters dB/inch and $e_{\mbox{eff}}$ from measuring the S parameters of the two fixtures with different lengths.

For low loss media such as suspended substrate, the added length L should be large enough so that the transmission loss of the larger line will be evident. The added line may need to be a centimeter or longer. Since measurements of the phase of s11 and s22 are ambiguous by multiples of 2π radians if L is larger than 1/2 wavelength, one can resolve the ambiguity in t_g as follows:

- a. Estimate e_{eff} and find an approximate t_q .
- b. Use this value to calculate $e_{eff}^{\ o}$, $e_{eff}^{\ +}$, and $e_{eff}^{\ -}$ for the approximated values of t_g , $t_g^{\ +}2\pi$, and $t_g^{\ -}2\pi$ respectively.
- c. Choose which of the three values comes closest to the estimated $\mathbf{e}_{\text{eff}}.$

Generally, for L one or two wavelengths long, the other two values will be very far off.

B. FINDING THE TRANSITION PARAMETERS

We now turn to the rest of the de-embedding process.

Using identical loads, do the <u>Reflect</u> measurements, finding Γ_{MA} and Γ_{MB} . It is not necessary to know the load value, only that it is the same for the two reflect measurements. Taking identical lengths off the ends of the TRL transitions provides the simplest of loads.

$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ a_1 \end{bmatrix}_{\mathbf{A}} = \begin{bmatrix} R_{\mathbf{A}1} & R_{\mathbf{A}2} \\ R_{\mathbf{A}3} & R_{\mathbf{A}4} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix}_{\mathbf{A}} = R_{\mathbf{A}4} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \\ A_3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix}_{\mathbf{A}}$$

$$(b_1/a_1)_A = \Gamma_{MA} = \frac{A_1(a_2/b_2) + A_2}{A_3(a_2/b_2) + 1} = \frac{A_1\Gamma_L + A_2}{A_3\Gamma_L + 1}$$
 (14)

define
$$X1 \equiv R_{A1}/R_{A3} = A_1/A_3$$
 and (15)

$$X2 \equiv R_{A2}/R_{A4} = A_2 \tag{16}$$

where these values were completely determined in (7) and (9). we find from (14)

$$A_1 = \frac{\Gamma_{MA} - X2}{\Gamma_{I,}(1 - \Gamma_{MA}/X1)} \tag{17}$$

where all values are now known except $\Gamma_{\mathbf{L}}$ Similarly,

$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ a_1 \end{bmatrix}_B = \begin{bmatrix} R_{B1}/R_{B4} & R_{B2}/R_{B4} \\ R_{B3}/R_{B4} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix}_B = R_{B4} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} B_1 & B_2 \\ B_3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix}_B$$

$$(b_1/a_1)_B = \frac{1}{\Gamma_L} = \frac{B_1 + B_2(b_2/a_2)_B}{B_3 + (b_2/a_2)_B} = \frac{B_1 + B_2 \cdot \Gamma_{MB}}{B_3 + \Gamma_{MB}}$$
(18)

We now find the B values, hence $\Gamma_{\rm L}$, and finally, from (17), A_1 .

From measurements:

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_{AB} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R_{AB1} & R_{AB2} \\ R_{AB3} & R_{AB4} \end{bmatrix} = R_{AB4} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} AB1 & AB2 \\ AB3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
 known, and since

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{B}} \end{array}\right] = \left[\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}} \end{array}\right]^{-1} \left[\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{AB}} \end{array}\right]$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} R_{B} \end{array} \right] = R_{B4} \cdot \left[\begin{array}{cc} B_{1} & B_{2} \\ B_{3} & 1 \end{array} \right] = \frac{R_{AB4}}{R_{A4} (A_{1} - A_{2} \cdot A_{3})} \left[\begin{array}{cc} 1 & -A_{2} \\ -A_{3} & A_{1} \end{array} \right] \cdot \left[\begin{array}{cc} AB_{1} & AB_{2} \\ AB_{3} & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

solving for RB_A , we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} B_1 & B_2 \\ B_3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{(A_1 - A_3 \cdot AB_2)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -A_2 \\ -A_3 & A_1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} AB_1 & AB_2 \\ AB_3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B_1 = \frac{AB_1 - X2 \cdot AB_3}{A_1 \cdot (1 - AB_2/X1)}$$
 (19)

$$B_2 = \frac{AB_2 - X_2}{A_1(1 - AB_2/X1)}$$
 (20)

$$B_3 = \frac{AB_3 - AB_1/X1}{1 - AB_2/X1} \tag{21}$$

Eliminating the unknown $\Gamma_{
m L}$ from (17) and (18) gives

$$\frac{A_1}{B_3} = \frac{(\Gamma_{MA} - X2) \cdot (1 + [B_2/B_1] \cdot \Gamma_{MB})}{(1 - \Gamma_{MA}/X1) \cdot (B_3 + \Gamma_{MB})}, \text{ all known}$$
 (22)

Multiplying (22) by (19) yields two solutions for A_1

$$A_{1} = \pm \left[\frac{(\Gamma_{MA} - X2) \cdot (1 + [B_{2}/B_{1}] \cdot \Gamma_{MB}) \cdot (AB_{1} - X2 \cdot AB_{3})}{(\Gamma_{MB} + B_{3}) \cdot (1 - \Gamma_{MA}/X1) \cdot (1 - AB_{2}/X1)} \right]^{1/2}$$
(23)

$$A_1 = a_1 \cdot \epsilon^{jTax1} \quad \text{for } + \sqrt{\epsilon^{jTax1}} \quad \text{for } -\sqrt{\epsilon^{jTax1}}$$

where a₁ is a positive real number.

To find which solution is to be used, find the approximate value of A₁. If an ideal open circuit were used for the reflect measurement, $\Gamma_L = 1$. If the open circuit was at an angular distance θ_i before the reference position, $\Gamma_L = \epsilon^{\text{J}2\theta 1}$. Substituting in (17) we find the approximate value of A₁.

$$A_1 \approx \frac{\Gamma_{MA} - X2}{\epsilon^{j2\Theta i} (1 - \Gamma_{MA}/X1)} \equiv A_{1x} = |a_{1x}| \cdot \epsilon^{jTax}$$
, all known (24)

Now that we've calculated the phase angle that A_1 would have with an ideal open circuit, we can compare that phase angle with the angles derived from the non-ideal opens. The winner is the angle closest to T_{ax} . This is shown diagrammatically in Figure A1.

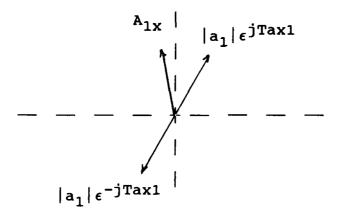


Figure A1. Determining the correct phase of A_1

All values of the A matrix are now known.

C. DE-EMBEDDING THE DEVICE

The device is inserted at the reference position, that is, the junction of TRL transitions 1 and 2 (Figure A2). This position need not be at the center of the line.

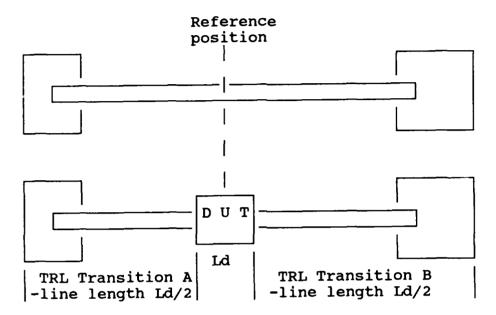


Figure A2. Inserting the device at the reference position

[RADB] can be written to include the negative line lengths -Ld/2 taken by the DUT from the TRL transition line lengths.

The R matrix for negative line length -Ld/2 is

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{N}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} e^{\tau \mathbf{I} \mathbf{d}/2} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-\tau \mathbf{I} \mathbf{d}/2} \end{bmatrix}$$
 (25)

so

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_{ADB} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R_{A} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} R_{N} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} R_{D} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} R_{N} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} R_{B} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= R_{A4} \cdot R_{B4} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} AR_{N} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} R_{D} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} R_{NB} \end{bmatrix}$$
(26)

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{D}} \end{array}\right] = \frac{1}{\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}4} \cdot \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{B}4}} \left[\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{A}\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{N}} \end{array}\right]^{-1} \left[\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{A}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{B}} \end{array}\right] \cdot \left[\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{N}}\mathbf{B} \end{array}\right]^{-1}$$
(27)

The values \mathbf{R}_{A4} and \mathbf{R}_{B4} have not yet been determined. We can write

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_{AB} \end{bmatrix} = R_{A4} \cdot R_{B4} \begin{bmatrix} A \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} B \end{bmatrix} \text{ which yields}$$

$$R_{AB4} = R_{A4} \cdot R_{B4} \cdot (1 + A_3 \cdot B_2) . \tag{28}$$

Substituting (28) into (27) gives the result

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{R_{D}} \end{array}\right] = \frac{(1 + \mathbf{A_{3} \cdot B_{2}})}{\mathbf{R_{AB4}}} \cdot \left[\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{AR_{N}} \end{array}\right]^{-1} \left[\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{R_{ADB}} \end{array}\right] \cdot \left[\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{R_{NB}} \end{array}\right]^{-1}$$
 (29)

Examination of this equation shows that all values to the right of the = sign have been determined; therefore the device transmission parameters can be calculated.

Finally, the 4-port device R parameters can be converted to the device S parameters by the standard transformation methods.

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{s_D} \end{array}\right] = \frac{1}{R_{22}} \left[\begin{array}{c} R_{12} & d_r \\ 1 & -R_{21} \end{array}\right] , \quad d_r = R_{11} \cdot R_{22} - R_{12} \cdot R_{21}$$
 (30)

Appendix B: STRL4, A De-Embedding Computer Routine"

The computer program listed in the following pages was written in TRUE BASIC, a compiled version of Basic which seems well suited for mathematical programming.

The first part of the program is specific for data obtained on a Wiltron 360 network analyzer. It calls up the stored S parameter data from the Transition, added Length, Reflection, and DUT measurements and filters out the garbage associated with byte file headings, spaces, etc. The four Wiltron data files are stored with file names T,L,R, and any name for the device under test. All four files are automatically given the extension .DAT by the analyzer.

Example: For TRL de-embedding if we denote a particular measurement set "B," and we call the DUT "fil," the four file names would be

T B.DAT

L B. DAT

R B.DAT

fil B.DAT

For the filtering routine to work with the Wiltron, it is important that the analyzer is set to display linear magnitude and phase information such as "linear polar", and that the markers are off.

If data is obtained from another analyzer such as an H.P. 8510, a routine should be written so that data for N different frequencies ends up as

```
f(k), k=1 to N

s11(k,g), k=1 to N, g=1 to 4 (1\rightarrowL, 2\rightarrowT, 3\rightarrowR, 4\rightarrowDUT)

t11(k,g), " " "

t22(k,g), " " , " "
```

Copies of this program may be obtained by U.S. companies by writing the author. Although every attempt has been made to assure accuracy, the author and the U.S. government do not assume any responsibility for its usage.

```
!STRL (takes 4 Wiltron byte files as input and de-embeds device
                                                     S parameters)
input prompt "device name, device length (in.) = ":dname$, Ld
input prompt "use printer (y or n) ":print$
if print$="y" then
open #10: printer
print #10: dname$&".TRL (de-embedded)"," Ld=";Ld;"in."
print #10:
end if
input prompt "include Ldb, eeff of calib. ? (y or n) ":incl$
option nolet
for q=1 to 4
if g=1 then open #1: name "salb.wil",
                                           access input, org byte
if g=2 then open #2: name "sab.wil",
                                           access input, org byte
if g=3 then open #3: name "sga.wil",
                                         access input, org byte
if g=4 then open #4: name "dname$&".wil", access input, org byte
ask #g: filesize len1
read #g, bytes len1:file$
pl=pos[file$,chr$(10)&chr$(10)&chr$(49)]-1
                                              !start of 1st freq.
                                              position
p2=pos[file$,chr$(10)&chr$(12)]
                                              !end of data position
len2=p2-p1
n=int(len2/137) !number of frequencies
set #g: pointer begin
read #g, bytes p1:kill$
                                       !removes garbage headings
dim buf$(141,10),c$(10),d$(10),f$(10)
when error in
for k=1 to n
read #q, bytes 137: a$
                               !reads line of data
  b$=a$[2:137]
                               !removes chr$(10) symbol before
data
for j=1 to 10
    c$(1)=b$[01:03]
    c$(2)=b$[04:16]
    c$(3)=b$[17:31]
    c$(4)=b$[32:48]
    c$(5)=b$[49:63]
    c$(6)=b$[64:78]
    c$(7)=b$[79:93]
    c$(8)=b$[94:108]
    c$(9)=b$[109:124]
    c$(10) = b$[125:139]
    buf$(k,j)=c$(j)
next j
next k
print using "not enough data on freg line ###":k
set #q: pointer end
end when
dim f(401,4),s11(401,4),t11(401,4),s12(401,4),t12(401,4),
             s21(401,4),t21(401,4), s22(401,4),t22(401,4)
```

```
for k=1 to n
f(k,q)=val(buf\$(k,2))
sll(k,g)=val(buf\$(k,3))
t11(k,q)=val(buf\$(k,4))
s12(k,g)=val(buf\$(k,5))
t12(k,g)=val(buf\$(k,6))
s21(k,g)=val(buf\$(k,7))
t21(k,g)=val(buf\$(k,8))
s22(k,g)=val(buf\$(k,9))
t22(k,g) = val(buf\$(k,10))
next k
close #q
next g
REM g=1:Salb g=2:Sab g=3:Sga g=4:Sadb
REM: example: f(20,4) is the 20th frequency of Sadb data
call trl
sub TRL ! TRL calibration and measurement
option angle degrees
option nolet
La=.1! added line (inches) used for calibration
rem Ld= length (inches) of device to be parameterized
if incl$="y" then
print "F(GHz)
                Ldb
                      eeff
                               S11
                                       A11
                                                S12
                                                        A12
                                      A22"
                S21
                       A21
                               S22
if print$="y" then print #10: "F(GHz)
                                         Ldb
                                               eeff
                                                         S11
                                                                A11
                        S12
                               A12
                                         S21
                                                A21
                                                         S22
                                                               A22"
else
print "F(GHz)
                  S11
                         A11
                                   S12
                                          A12
                                                    S21
                                                           A21
             A22"
       S22
if print$="y" then print #10: "F(GHz)
                                           S11
                                                  A11
                                                            S12
                                        S21
                                                              A22"
                                A12
                                               A21
                                                        S22
end if
FOR N=1 to 28
FOR G=1 TO 4
fr=f(n,1)
!S params with added line
!read s1,a1,s2,a2,s3,a3,s4,a4
let s1=s11(n,1)
let a1=t11(n,1)
let s2=s12(n,1)
let a2=t12(n,1)
let s3=s21(n,1)
let a3=t21(n,1)
let s4=s22(n,1)
let a4=t22(n,1)
```

```
call StoT(s1,a1,s2,a2,s3,a3,s4,a4,r1alb,t1alb,r2alb,t2alb,
          r3alb,t3alb,r4alb,t4alb) !Ralb
!S params without added line
!read s1,a1,s2,a2,s3,a3,s4,a4
let s1=s11(n,2)
let a1=t11(n,2)
let s2=s12(n,2)
let a2=t12(n,2)
let s3=s21(n,2)
let a3=t21(n,2)
let s4=s22(n,2)
let a4=t22(n,2)
call StoT(s1,a1,s2,a2,s3,a3,s4,a4,r1ab,t1ab,r2ab,t2ab,r3ab,t3ab,
          r4ab, t4ab)!Rab
!reflection coeff. of transitions and B with identical loading
!read ga,tga,gb,tgb
let ga=s11(n,3)
let tga=t11(n,3)
let qb=s22(n,3)
let tqb=t22(n,3)
!S parameters with device inserted
!read s1,a1,s2,a2,s3,a3,s4,a4
let s1=s11(n,4)
let a1=t11(n,4)
let s2=s12(n,4)
let a2=t12(n,4)
let s3=s21(n,4)
let a3=t21(n,4)
let s4=s22(n,4)
let a4=t22(n,4)
call StoT(s1,a1,s2,a2,s3,a3,s4,a4,r1adb,t1adb,r2adb,t2adb,
r3adb,t3adb,r4adb,t4adb) !Radb
!find matrix [T]=[Ralb]*[Rab]-1
call inv(rlab,tlab,r2ab,t2ab,r3ab,t3ab,r4ab,t4ab,rilab,ailab,
ri2ab, ai2ab, ri3ab, ai3ab, ri4ab, ai4ab)! (Rab)-1
call mult(r1alb,t1alb,r2alb,t2alb,r3alb,t3alb,r4alb,t4alb,
          rilab, ailab, ri2ab, ai2ab, ri3ab, ai3ab, ri4ab, ai4ab,
          t1, at1, t2, at2, t3, at3, t4, at4)
!find line coeff. ! exp(-alpha*La)*exp(-j*beta*La)=gx*exp(j*tgx)
! first solve quad. exp(-2*gamma*La)-exp(-gamma*La)*(T1+T4)
                     +(T1*T4-T2*T3)=0
call add(t1/2,at1,t4/2,at4,b,angb)
call add(t1*t4,at1+at4,-t2*t3,at2+at3,c,angc)
call add(1,0,-c/(b^2),angc-2*angb,d,angd)
```

```
call add(b,angb,b*sqr(d),angb+angd/2,q1,tq1)
call add(b,angb,-b*sqr(d),angb+angd/2,g2,tg2)
if tq1<=0 then !correct solution is one with negative exp.
qx=q1
tqx=tq1
else
\alpha x = \alpha 2
tgx=tg2
end if
!gx*exp(jtg)=exp(-alpha*La)*exp(-j*beta*La)
beta=-tqx/La
eeff=(30*tgx/(2*180*2.54*La*fr))^2
Ldb=20*log10(Gx)/La
!if print$="y" then print #10, using "f=##.### Ldb=##.###
                                     Eeff=##.##": fr, Ldb,eeff
!Find X1=Ra1/Ra3, X2=Ra2/Ra4
call add(gx/t3,tgx-at3,-t4/t3,at4-at3,x1,tx1)
call add(1/(qx*t3),-tqx-at3,-t4/t3,at4-at3,x2,tx2)
a2=x2 !one of the elements of [A]: to be used later
ta2=tx2
!put [Rab] in the form const*[ab1,ab2,ab3,1]
call ratios(rlab,tlab,r2ab,t2ab,r3ab,t3ab,r4ab,t4ab,ab1,tab1,
            ab2, tab2, ab3, tab3)
!Rb=R4b*[B1,B2,B3,1]
!solve for B2/B1 = k1 * exp(j*tk1)
call add(ab2,tab2,-x2,tx2,ka,tka)
call add(ab1,tab1,-x2*ab3,tx2+tab3,kb,tkb)
k1=ka/kb
tk1=tka-tkb
!solve for B3=b3*exp(j*tb3)
call add(ab3,tab3,-ab1/x1,tab1-tx1,ka,tka)
call add(1,0,-ab2/x1,tab2-tx1,kb,tkb)
b3=ka/kb
tb3=tka-tkb
!solve for A1*B1=k3*exp(j*tk3)
call add(ab1,tab1,-x2*ab3,tx2+tab3,ka,tka)
k3=ka/kb
tk3=tka-tkb
!solve for a1*exp(j*ta1)
call add(ga,tga,-x2,tx2,g1,tg1)
call add( 1,0,k1*gb,tk1+tgb,g2,tg2)
call add(ab1,tab1,-x2*ab3,tx2+tab3,g3,tg3)
call add(gb,tgb,b3,tb3,g4,tg4)
call add(1,0,-ga/x1,tga-tx1,g5,tg5)
call add(1,0,-ab2/x1,tab2-tx1,g6,tg6)
a1=sqr(g1*g2*g3/(g4*g5*g6))
tax1=(tg1+tg2+tg3-tg4-tg5-tg6)/2
```

```
tax2=tax1+180
!find if tal=taxl or tal=tax2
!find approx value of al, given that load was an exact open
tar=2*beta*1r/2 !increased load angle caused by missing line
call add(ga,tga,-x2,tx2,anum,tanum)
call add(1,0,-ga/x1,tga-tx1,aden,taden)
ax=anum/aden
tax=tanum-taden-tar
if abs(mod(tax, 2*180) - mod(tax1, 2*180)) < 180/2 then
   tal=tax1 else tal=tax2
a3=a1/x1
ta3=ta1-tx1
a4 = 1
ta4=0
!solve for B1=b1*exp(j*tb1)
b1=k3/a1
tb1=tk3-ta1
!solve for B2=b2*exp(j*tb2)
b2=b1*k1
tb2=tb1+tk1
b4 = 1
tb4=0
![Radb] is actually [RaRnRdRnRb] where [Rn] is matrix for -Ld/2
        line length
![Rn] matrix is:
rn1=exp(alpha*Ld/2)
tn1=beta*Ld/2
rn2=0
tn2=0
rn3=0
tn3=0
rn4=exp(-alpha*Ld/2)
tn4=-beta*Ld/2
! find [Ran]=[Ra]*[Rn]=R4a*[A1,A2,A3,1]
       [Rnb] = [Rn] * [Rb] = R4b * [B1, B2, B3, 1]
! [Rd]=[Ran]-1 *[Radb]*[Rnb]-1
cal! mult(a1,ta1,a2,ta2,a3,ta3,1,0,rn1,tn1,rn2,tn2,rn3,tn3,
          rn4, tn4, ran1, tan1, ran2, tan2, ran3, tan3, ran4, tan4)
call mult(rn1,tn1,rn2,tn2,rn3,tn3,rn4,tn4,b1,tb1,b2,tb2,
          b3,tb3,b4,tb4,rnb1,tnb1,rnb2,tnb2,rnb3,tnb3,rnb4,tnb4)
! find [Rnb]-1 and [Ran]-1
call inv(rnb1,tnb1,rnb2,tnb2,rnb3,tnb3,rnb4,tnb4,
         nb1,tinb1,inb2,tinb2,inb3,tinb3,inb4,tinb4)
call inv(ran1,tan1,ran2,tan2,ran3,tan3,ran4,tan4,ian1,tian1,
         ian2, tian2, ian3, tian3, ian4, tian4)
!find [Radb] * [Rnb-1] = Rbb
```

```
call mult(rladb,tladb,r2adb,t2adb,r3adb,t3adb,r4adb,t4adb,
          inb1, tinb1, inb2, tinb2, inb3, tinb3, inb4, tinb4,
          rlbb,t1bb,r2bb,t2bb,r3bb,t3bb,r4bb,t4bb)
!find [Ran-1]*Rbb=Rdd
call mult(ian1, tian1, ian2, tian2, ian3, tian3, ian4, tian4,
          r1bb, t1bb, r2bb, t2bb, r3bb, t3bb, r4bb, t4bb,
          r1dd,t1dd,r2dd,t2dd,r3dd,t3dd,r4dd,t4dd)
![Rd]=1/(R4a*R4b) *[Rdd], where 1/(R4a*R4b)=(A3*B3+1)/R4ab
call add(a3*b2/r4ab,ta3+tb2-t4ab,1/r4ab,-t4ab,de,tde)
rd1=de*rldd
rd2=de*r2dd
rd3=de*r3dd
rd4=de*r4dd
td1=tde+t1dd
td2=tde+t2dd
td3=tde+t3dd
td4=tde+t4dd
! Find device S parameters [Sd]
call TtoS(rd1,td1,rd2,td2,rd3,td3,rd4,td4,sd11,td11,sd12,td12,
                                           sd21,td21,sd22,td22)
next g
if incl$="y" then
             "##.### ##.##
print using
                             # . # # # # # # # # # # # # # # . #
              ##-### ####.# ##.## ###.# ##.## ###.#":
              fr, Ldb, eeff, sd11, td11, sd12, td12, sd21, td21, sd22, td22
if print$="y" then print #10, using "##.### ##.## #.## ##.##
                   ##.### ####.# ##.###.# ####.# ##.###.#":
          ####.#
          fr, Ldb, eeff, sd11, td11, sd12, td12, sd21, td21, sd22, td22
else
print using "##.### ##.## ##.## ###.# ##.## ###.#
             ##.### ####.# ##.## ####.#":
             fr,sd11,td11,sd12,td12,sd21,td21,sd22,td22
if print$="y" then print #10, using "##.### ##.## ##.## ###.#
                     ##.### ####.# ##.## ####.# ##.### ####.#":
                    fr,sd11,td11,sd12,td12,sd21,td21,sd22,td22
end if
next n
end sub
end
!******** external subroutines follow **********
SUB MULT(a1,t1,a2,t2,a3,t3,a4,t4,b1,q1,b2,q2,b3,q3,b4,q4,
                                   c1,r1,c2,r2,c3,r3,c4,r4
call add(a1*b1,t1+q1,a2*b3,t2+q3,c1,r1)
call add(a1*b2,t1+q2,a2*b4,t2+q4,c2,r2)
call add(a3*b1,t3+q1,a4*b3,t4+q3,c3,r3)
call add(a3*b2,t3+g2,a4*b4,t4+g4,c4,r4)
end sub
SUB RTP(x,y,u,i) !u*exp(j*i)=x+j(v2) converts x,y to u*expi
option angle degrees
u=sqr(x^2+y^2)
if y=0 then
```

```
if x>=0 then i=0 else i=180
end if
if y<>0 then
  if x=0 then i=180/2*y/abs(y)
  if x>0 then i=atn(y/x)
  if x<0 then i=atn(y/x)+180
end if
end sub
SUB ADD(u1,i1,u2,i2,u,i) !u*exp(j*i)=u1*exp(j*i1)+u2*exp(j*i2)
option angle degrees
x=u1*cos(i1)+u2*cos(i2)
y=u1*sin(i1)+u2*sin(i2)
u=sqr(x*x+y*y)
if y=0 then
  if x>=0 then i=0 else i=180
end if
if y<>0 then
  if x=0 then i=180/2*y/abs(y)
  if x>0 then i=atn(y/x)
  if x<0 then i=atn(y/x)+180
end if
  i=360/(2*180)*i
end sub
SUB INV(u1,i1,u2,i2,u3,i3,u4,i4,v1,j1,v2,j2,v3,j3,v4,j4)
rem u's, i's, elements of matrix, v's,j's are inverse
call add(u1*u4,i1+i4,-u2*u3,i2+i3,d,id)
v1=u4/d
j1=i4-id
v2=-u2/d
j2=i2-id
v3=-u3/d
j3=i3-id
v4=u1/d
j4=i1-id
end sub
SUB StoT(s1,a1,s2,a2,s3,a3,s4,a4,t1,b1,t2,b2,t3,b3,t4,b4)
        !S to T params
call add(s1*s4, a1+a4, -s2*s3, a2+a3, d, td)!find delta =d*exp(jtd)
t1=-d/s3
b1=td-a3
t2=s1/s3
b2 = a1 - a3
t3 = -s4/s3
b3 = a4 - a3
t4=1/s3
b4=-a3
end sub
SUB TTOS(t1,a1,t2,a2,t3,a3,t4,a4,s1,b1,s2,b2,s3,b3,s4,b4)
        !T to S params
call add(t1*t4,a1+a4,-t2*t3,a2+a3,d,td) !delta=d*exp(jtd)
```

```
s1=t2/t4
b1=a2-a4
s2=d/t4
b2=td-a4
s3=1/t4
b3=-a4
s4=t3/t4
b4=a3-a4+180
end sub
SUB Root(a1,ta1,b,tb,c,tc,x1,tx1,x2,tx2)
!solves a1(X^2)+B(X)+C=0 where a1=a1*exp(jta),..etc
!2 roots are x1*exp(jtx1), x2*exp(jtx2)
if a1<>0 then
call add(1,0,-4*a1*c/b^2,ta1+tc-2*tb,e,te)
call add(1,0, sqr(e),te/2,f1,tf1)
call add(1,0,-sqr(e),te/2,f2,tf2)
xa=-b*f1/(2*a1)
txa=tb-ta1+tf1
xb=-b*f2/(2*a1)
txb=tb-ta1+tf2
if abs(xa) > abs(xb) then
x1=xa
tx1=txa
x2=xb
tx2=txb
end if
if abs(xb) > abs(xa) then
x1=xb
tx1=txb
x2=xa
tx2=txa
end if
end if
if al=0 then
x1=-c/b
tx1=tc-tb
x2=x1
tx2=tx1
end if
end sub
SUB RATIOS(r1,tr1,r2,tr2,r3,tr3,r4,tr4,a1,ta1,a2,ta2,a3,ta3)
!forms [R1,R2,R3,R4] matrix into R4*[A1,A2,A3,1] matrix
al=r1/r4
tal=trl-tr4
a2=r2/r4
ta2=tr2-tr4
a3=r3/r4
ta3=tr3-tr4
end sub
```

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